ductive condition. While this may not relieve the immediate financial problem now confronting the counties in which they lie, it is believed that in the long run the counties have more to gain from the restoration of the forest to a condition productive of revenue than by allowing the present destructive process to continue.

"It should also be borne in mind in this connection that purchase by the United States of 50 per cent of the land area of a county does not necessarily mean the removal of 50 percent of the taxable property in the county, since the land tax ordinarily represents only a part of the county income and the lands purchased by the United States, which usually comprise the least valuable tracts, represent only a small part of the total land valuation on which taxes are paid.

"While it is the expressed puspose of the Forest Service to acquire these

In all things right he'll play his part,
In a loader wreck he got his start.

Judge George W. McClintic, always with the best interests of his native county and state at heart, has been giving consideration to probable effects of the wholesale buying up lands in Pocahontas County for national forests purposes. His is the acute, analizing mind, and he readily sees there are two sides to this question of the federal government buying up lands in the country—that is to say, there are behefits and there also draw backs. In a letter to Congressman Jennings Randolph the Judge says:

"I have seen, in the public prints, that you were very much interested in the subject matter of buying up lands in West Virginia for national forests, and especially lands in the County of Pocahontas.

"I am a farm-land owner in that county, and likewise an actual farmer, and I have been paying up the loss on that farm for some time, and probably will for some time to come.

"The public prints say that the Government of the United

"I am a farm-land owner in that county, and likewise an actual farmer, and I have been paying up the loss on that farm for some time, and probably will for some time to come.

"The public prints say that the Government of the United States may buy possibly one-half the total acreage of land in Pocahontas County I do not know whether you thoroughly appreciate what this would mean for the farmers who were left and who would have to pay the taxes to keep the county running. To withdraw one-half the acreage of the county from taxation is a very serious matter. There is a county in North Carolina by the name of Swain, or Swayne, from which the Government and the Indians have taken sixty per cent of the land, and the authorities of that county have been trying to get Congress to grant some relief, under the peculiar circumstances. The matter will be up at the next session. so I am informed.

"I would most respectfully, yet earnestly, suggest to you that if this